

Attacks, was published in the *Federal Register* on September 18, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 48199).

The terrorist threat that led to the declaration on September 14, 2001, of a national emergency continues. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect after September 14, 2002, the national emergency with respect to the terrorist threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 12, 2002.

WELCOMING BULGARIAN PRESIDENT GEORGI PARVANOV TO AMERICA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, I welcomed Bulgarian President Georgi Parvanov to Capitol Hill, along with Ambassador Elena Poptodorova and Foreign Minister Solomon Passy. Joining me in this meeting were the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN), who are two members of the newly formed Bulgaria Caucus, also cochaired by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TAUSCHER).

The Bulgarian caucus was created to spread awareness in America about Bulgaria's strategic location and critical assistance in the war on terrorism. Members of the Bulgaria Caucus are also strongly committed to helping Bulgaria gain admittance to NATO this November.

President Parvanov presented proclamations to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TAUSCHER) and I to honor the creation of the Bulgaria Caucus. The presidential proclamation affirms "Bulgaria is committed to standing by the United States in the war on terrorism for the long haul," and that the leaders of Bulgaria are looking forward to working with members of the Bulgaria Caucus to further interest and awareness in America about Bulgaria.

□ 1230

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WILSON of South Carolina). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

SADDAM'S VIOLATION OF U.N. RESOLUTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the wake of the remarks by the President of the United States before the United Nations, words that reso-

nated not only around this Nation but around the world, to respectfully repeat the question the President asked that august and historic body today: Will the United Nations choose to be relevant on the planet Earth?

As the President described, Saddam Hussein, the dictator of Iraq, has systematically and continually violated 16 United Nations resolutions over the past decade. The United Nations, for incomprehensible reasons, has chosen to retreat in the face of Hussein's audacity.

Mr. Speaker, we must learn the lessons of history. Over 60 years ago, Neville Chamberlain retreated in the face of tyranny in Central Europe when he returned to the people of England and held aloft a sheet of paper, an agreement of peace with the dictator of Germany, and pledged that he had achieved peace in our time.

For the past decade, the United Nations has repeated the mistakes of the past. President Bush demonstrated by his speech in the United Nations that he will not play the role of a modern-day Chamberlain, but he has chosen to play the role of Churchill. As the President said today, Saddam has made the case against himself. A dictator who routinely murders his own people, harbors terrorists, develops weapons of mass destruction is a threat to the civilized world.

President Bush has made the case for military action against Iraq, and it is now time for the United Nations to fully support regime change in that nation and for that people.

Iraq has refused weapons inspections for almost 4 years. Mr. Speaker, 4 years is 4 years too long. Are we to believe that Saddam Hussein stopped developing biological and chemical weapons and his pursuit of nuclear capability at the exact moment he prevented weapons inspections from going forward? As the President said memorably today to the United Nations, logic and common sense scream otherwise.

Are we willing to gamble, as the President asked, the lives of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people on the possibility that Saddam Hussein can be trusted, or is it more reasonable to assume that when that dictator attains a nuclear weapon, that he will be prepared to use it?

Saddam Hussein has already used weapons of mass destruction. A nuclear capability is simply the next and logical macabre step. As the President said today, this is a gamble that opponents of military action are taking in the world. It is a gamble that I and many in this institution, as the debate ensues in the weeks and months ahead, I pray will not be willing to take.

Mr. Speaker, military conflict is a serious business. There is not a night that I do not go into my 11-year-old son's room late, pull up the covers and brush back his hair, that I am not aware of the cost of war. But I must say today, the risk of inaction against this malevolent dictator, who has

flaunted the resolutions of the civilized world, is greater than the risks of action.

The United Nations, as the President said memorably today, Mr. Speaker, was designed to be able to respond to threats from dangerous dictators who threaten the peace of the world. I say again that question which the President asked today. The United Nations must now choose whether it will be relevant on planet Earth.

If they choose against relevance, as the President was clear today, let the world be assured that by this Congress and its war powers authorizing our Commander in Chief, the United States and its courageous allies will not choose irrelevance; we will choose justice. We can seek the safety and security of our people and the people of the civilized world.

ELECTIONS IN KASHMIR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PENCE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise on the House floor this afternoon to express my deep concerns regarding the upcoming elections in Kashmir, which begin on September 16.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to first make it clear that Kashmir is a state within India, which is the largest democracy in the world. Given that India has operated under the traditions of democracy since independence, I am confident that Indian officials and their electoral commission are doing everything possible to ensure that the elections proceed under free and fair circumstances.

In fact, this week myself and some of my colleagues who are members of the India Caucus met on a bipartisan basis, I should say, with the external minister, Sinha; and he told us very dramatically that the Indian Government, together with the electoral commission, are doing everything possible to make sure that these elections are held in free and fair circumstances. They have learned some of the lessons from the past about how to improve the voter turnout and to make sure that violence is not committed against those who would choose to exercise their right to vote.

However, my concern stems not only from increased infiltration of terrorists at the Kashmiri line of control, but also from the surge of violence in the Kashmir region by Islamic fundamentalists, whose primary purpose is to thwart the elections in Kashmir.

It is no coincidence that the new wave of infiltration at the border and the specific violence aimed at candidates running in Kashmir are occurring now just days prior to the beginnings of the election. On a near-daily basis for over a year, we have been witnessing cross-border terrorism in Kashmir that has led to countless murders

of Indian army officials and innocent civilians.

This leads me to believe that there is very little possibility that infiltration by Islamic militants at the Kashmir line of control has subsided, even though President Musharraf of Pakistan pledged that infiltration would decrease several months ago. Mr. Speaker, increased cross-border activity, augmented by targeted attacks against those running in the elections, and President Musharraf's calling the elections a sham, are cause for serious alarm.

Just yesterday, it was reported that a candidate, a Kashmiri state government minister, along with seven others, was killed by militants. This was the second murder of a candidate in less than a week and is the most recent addition to a string of murders by militants that have killed 40 political workers in the past several weeks. Militants have vowed to escalate violence prior to the election in an effort to disrupt the elections, and they go so far as to say that they will attempt to kill anyone who participates.

Mr. Speaker, unless there is a clear directive from the Pakistani President to the militants to end this violence surrounding the elections, and an acknowledgment from President Musharraf that these elections are not to be interfered with, and that they should proceed free and fair, it is unclear to me what type of outcome there will be between now and the conclusion of the elections. The elections go, Mr. Speaker, from September 16 until sometime in October.

I would urge President Musharraf of Pakistan to take a leadership role and to ensure India that the elections can take place without any threat of violence. I urge the Bush administration to put more pressure on Musharraf to end cross-border infiltration and not condone interference at the polls in Kashmir.

Mr. Speaker, I mention that when the Indian external minister, Mr. Sinha, was here, he spoke to our Secretary of State, Mr. Powell, and asked him to do whatever he could to put pressure on Musharraf to make sure that the elections in Kashmir are not interfered with.

But, of course, the concern is whether Musharraf is going to carry through. He has to be made to uphold his commitments to ending terrorism, and the first step he can take is to do everything in his power to ensure that cross-border terrorism into Kashmir ceases and that the elections in Kashmir take place freely and fairly, without the threat of violence to the candidates or Kashmiri voters.

A TRIBUTE TO CONNELLY SPRINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, let me just say, nestled halfway between Raleigh and Asheville in North Carolina is a little town called Connelly Springs. It is a small town built around an old stagecoach stop which now serves railroad passengers.

Named for its healthful spring waters, Connelly Springs was incorporated in 1920; but due to taxes, licenses, fines, and other onerous government impositions, residents decided to repeal the town charter in 1933.

As time passed, residents needed a water supply system as local wells became less productive. Residential roads needed paving, and the State only paved highways. To address these community needs, a group of citizens petitioned the State legislative bodies to allow a vote on reincorporation; and in 1989, 266 out of the 400 town voters approved the effort.

Amazingly, the first government decided a nickel per hundred dollar property tax would cover the cost of government. City offices were established in the old filling station with a volunteer clerk to handle the details. In addition, six volunteer council members would set town policy.

The council did an outstanding job meeting the community's needs. When two larger towns on either side of Connelly Springs decided to run a large water line connecting those two, the town of Connelly Springs' council realized the lines would pass near the northern boundary of the new town. They decided to go into the deal for \$200,000 paid over 20 years.

The plan worked beautifully. With several backhoes and other equipment to aid in the installation, Connelly Springs installed the water lines and became the first North Carolina self-help program member whose local residents provided the time and the resources to install their own water lines.

With the aid from their Rensselaerville Institute and the Appalachian Regional Commission, a \$60,000 loan from the Ford Foundation, and local funds, the town reached the necessary projected cost of \$282,000.

Three years ago, I shoveled a little dirt to prepare the land for a new town hall. This September 7, I helped cut the ribbon to open the finished town hall. The upper floors contain offices and the council chamber, and the lower floor will be a community center for all local groups to use whenever they need it.

We ate hot dogs and hamburgers to celebrate the grand opening. It is all paid for, and they have money in the bank. In all my life, I have never seen a more dedicated group of citizens who manage their efforts and money so carefully. I only wish I had some of that dedication in Raleigh, North Carolina, and also in Washington, D.C.

HONORING CONGRESSIONAL STAFF AND GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. BAIRD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, yesterday our Nation and this House paid a fitting tribute to those who lost their lives on September 11, to the heroic rescuers, and to their families.

Today, I would like to take just a moment to honor another group of people who serve this Nation in a less dramatic way, but who are heroes in their own right and in their own quiet ways.

Last year, just 1 day after our Nation came under attack, and this very building was among the targets, the men and women who work here in this building, in our offices and in countless other government offices throughout this land, came right back in to work to serve this great Nation. When they came in to work on that September 12 morning, they knew then and they have known each and every day since then that they work in a potential target.

Scarcely a month later, they then faced a new challenge when anthrax entered our buildings, and for some of our staff, entered their bodies. The Capitol Police, the janitors and maintenance workers, the grounds crews, the people who serve food, the secretaries, the Parliamentarians, the clerks, the young pages, our legislative and our committee staff, our field and caseworkers, and all the other dedicated and courageous people who make this place and our government run all deserve our thanks and our praise.

With tears in their eyes, with sadness and with fear in their hearts, but with indomitable courage they came right back to work to serve this country we all love.

A year has passed now, and the immediate danger may have been diminished; but it remains in our awareness. Still, our staffs and the rest of the employees come to work, and in doing so, they serve our country.

□ 1245

In these times, this takes courage. So, and for that courage, I am grateful and this country is deeply fortunate.

HONORING OFFICER CRYSTAL D. SHEFFIELD

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PENCE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to pay tribute and honor Crystal D. Sheffield, a Baltimore City police officer who was killed in the line of duty while coming to the aid of a fellow officer on August 21, 2002. She was the city's first female officer ever to die in the line of duty.

Following a family tradition of public service, Officer Sheffield became a